

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E. O. 11652: N. A.

TAGS: SNAR HK

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS: FREY REPORT

1. REPORT BY CONGRESSMEN FREY, KYROS AND HASTINGS ON
NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN COUNTRIES THEY VISITED
JAN- FEB. 1973 TO BE ISSUED APRIL 25 OR 26.

2. ADVANCE COPY OF REPORT HAS BEEN GIVEN DEPARTMENT AND
COPIES OF PAGES ABOUT HONG KONG BEING AIRPOUCHED; FULL
REPORT WILL BE SENT WHEN AVAILABLE

3. CONCERNING HONG KONG, REPORT GAVE GENERAL DESCRIPTION
OF OPIATE PRICES, TREATMENT FACILITIES, TRAWLER PROBLEM
AND DRUG ABUSE BY US MILITARY. FOLLOWING POINTS ARE
ONES WHICH MOST STRIKING:

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4. " LOCAL OFFICIALS ALSO ESTIMATE THAT 4 TO 10 TONS OF HEROIN IS TRANSHIPPED FROM HONG KONG (PRIMARILY BY BODY PACK) TO THE UNITED STATES ANNUALLY, BUT ACCURATE INFORMATION IS LACKING."

5. " OVERALL NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS ARE CENTERED IN THE COMMISSION (SIC) OF NARCOTICS... FROM OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH MR. ROLFE, IT APPEARS THAT THE COMMISSION IS ESSENTIALLY A ONE- MAN OPERATION. HE IS PRESENTLY COMPILING A REPORT ON THE OVERALL DRUG SITUATION, BOTH INTERNATIONAL AND DOMESTIC. UNTIL THE REPORT IS FINISHED, NO MAJOR CHANGES IN CURRENT ENFORCEMENT POLICIES CAN BE EXPECTED. THE COMPLETION OF THE REPORT IS AT LEAST ONE YEAR OFF. ONE QUESTIONS WHY THIS WASN' T DONE BEFORE IN VIEW OF THE LONG HISTORY IN HONG KONG OF DRUG ADDICTION.,

6. " THE BRITISH IN HONG KONG ARE ALSO RELUCTANT TO RECOGNIZE THE SEVERITY OF THE PROBLEM EVIDENCED BY THE INCREASED AVAILABILITY OF NARCOTICS, AND TO, CORRESPONDINGLY, TAKE ACTION. FOR INSTANCE, MOST OFFICIALS WE SPOKE WITH WERE ' UPTIGHT' ABOUT THE RECENT REPORT OF THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE WHICH CONCLUDED THAT THE HONG KONG GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN LAX.... EVEN WHEN THEY ADMIT THE SERIOUSNESS OF CURRENT TRAFFICKING OPERATIONS, THEY PLACE THE BLAME ON LONDON. AND IT IS CORRECT THAT WITHOUT A STRONG COMMITMENT FROM LONDON, DRAMATIC IMPROVEMENT IN THE SITUATION IN HONG KONG CANNOT BE EXPECTED."

7. " TOM GARNER, DIRECTOR OF THE PRISON TREATMENT PROGRAM STATED TO US: ' I AM CYNICAL ABOUT LAW ENFORCEMENT IN THE COLONY. THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSIONER DOESN' T SOLVE ANYTHING. I WONDER WHETHER WE REALLY HAVE MADE AN HONEST EFFORT TO ROOT OUT THE PROBLEM.'"

8. " ALTHOUGH OUR CONSULATE IS GENUINGELY CONCERNED ABOUT NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING, THEY SEEM SOMEWHAT RELUCTANT TO PRESSURE THE BRITISH, FEELING THAT SINCE THEY ARE ONLY A CONSULATE, PRESSURE SHOULD INSTEAD BE APPLIED IN LONDON. THE RELUCTANCE OF OUR CONSULATE IS ALSO DUE TO THE BRITISH ATTITUDE THAT THEY REQUIRE NO OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE. THEY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DID, HOWEVER, REQUEST \$190,000 FOR TRAINING CONSULATE

PERSONNEL (SIC) IN NARCOTICS MATTERS, BUT NEVER RECEIVED A RESPONSE."

9. REPORT'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR HONG KONG: A) US PUT MORE DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE ON LONDON TO SUPPORT NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT EFFORTS IN HONG KONG; B) STRENGTHEN HONG KONG BNDD OPERATION AND MAKE IT PART OF SEA REGION; C) REDUCTION OF HONG KONG'S OWN ADDICT POPULATION SO THAT IT WON'T ATTRACT A FLOW OF DRUGS; D) NEED FOR MORE REGIONAL COOPERATION (HONG KONG SHOULD HAVE ITS OWN AGENTS IN SEA); AND E) COOPERATION OF PRC SHOULD BE SOUGHT IN PREVENTING USE OF ITS COASTS FOR UNLOADING OPIUM SHIPMENTS FROM THAILAND.

10. GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT INCLUDE INTER ALIA THAT CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL , OPIUM MONOPOLY, TO PURCHASE WORLD'S

PRODUCTION OF OPIUM, THAT AID SHOULD HAVE ITS AUTHORITY TO ADMINISTER SECTION 408 OF THE FOREIGN ASSISTANCE ACT REMOVED (SECTION QUOTED IS INCORRECT FOR NARCOTICS FUNDING), AND THAT DIPLOMATIC PRESSURE BE EXERTED ON PRC TO BECOME MORE ACTIVE IN INTERNATIONAL NARCOTIC ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES.

11. NO PRESS CONFERENCE IS PLANNED FOR RELEASE OF REPORT. BUT AS WITH BRADY REPORT, MORE PUBLICITY MAY OCCUR IN HONG KONG THAN IN U. S. WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS OR SUGGESTED RESPONSES MISSION WISHES MAKE TO ABOVE POINTS IN REPORT.

DECONTROL 7/1/73 PORTER

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